Universal Translator™ UT-103

Speech-to-speech translator

English ⇨ French
English ⇨ German
English ⇨ Spanish

User's manual

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Introduction

Discover the world with the only Universal Translator™. This unique device will help you feel more at home in a foreign country and will give you the ability to interact with people without having to depend on translators or dictionaries. With the help of the UT, you will have a chance to become better acquainted with a country and its inhabitants, all the while making new friends and gaining new impressions.

The Universal Translator™ features:

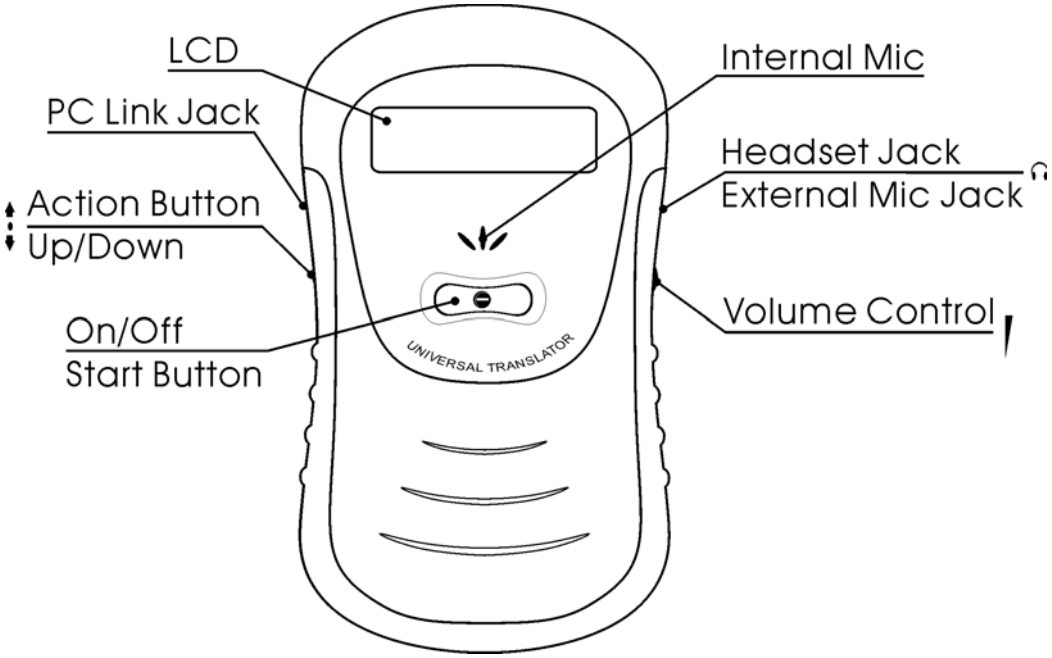
- *Advanced speech recognition system Lingvobit™*
- *About 3,000 common English phrases, with a possibility of translating any of those into 3 languages (French, German, and Spanish)*
- *Directional built-in microphone*
- *Big-size internal speaker*
- *Digital voice recorder*
- *Clock*
- *Audio alarm*
- *External jack for headset*
- *Auto off*

The latest speech recognition technology in the UT allows you to immediately translate a pronounced phrase without using a dictionary and to listen to clear, life-like pronunciation of the translation.

➢ As continuous efforts are made by the manufacturer to ensure a better quality and performance of the UT products, some characteristics or the design of the actual device you purchased may slightly differ from their description in this manual.

General View

General view and external appliances of the UT are shown below.



- The PC-Link Jack is reserved for future releases of this model.
- The speaker is located on the back of the device.

Display

Universal Translator™ is a portable device with a 2-line x 12-character LCD screen.

LCD marks and meaning

►	allows to select (sub)section or value
▉	active field
🔔	alarm is ON

Navigation buttons and their functions

Buttons	Functions
*Action Up/Down**	*Enter* – press once *ESC* – press twice *Up* – scroll up *Down* – scroll down
*On/Off Start***	To turn the device on or off. To start recording.
Reset	To initialize the device.

**Action* and *Up/Down* is the same button with two options: pressing and scrolling. *Action* (press) helps you to enter or exit sections and *Up/Down* (scroll) allows you to scroll lists and select sections or options.

** *On/Off* and *Start* is the same button with two different functions: *On/Off* helps you to turn the device on or off and *Start* helps you to start recording.

➢ Don't hasten, try to keep at least half-second intervals while pressing buttons (except for the cases when you use the *Action* button as ESC).

How to turn the device on for the first time

- remove the battery compartment cover and place two AA batteries into the compartment (see page 26) according to polarity
- press the *On/Off* button on the face side of the device. You will see the *UNIVERSAL TRANSLATOR, www.ectaco.com* message
- than the *Ready* message will appear, and the device will be ready for service. The first topic (*Everyday*

Conversation) will be displayed. To see next topics, scroll *Up/Down*.

➢ After the batteries are replaced, you can turn the device on in the same way.

How to turn the device on or off

To turn the device on:

- press *On/Off* to turn the device on. The *Clock* will be displayed. It means the device is in the standby mode (current time, date and the 🔔 sign if the *Alarm* is on are displayed). From this mode, you can enter:
  – the first topic (*Everyday Conversation*) or a resume window, where you had worked before the device was turned off automatically – by pressing *Action*, or
  – the *Menu* – by scrolling *Up/Down*: *press ACTION for menu…* message will appear; press *Action,* the *Menu* will be displayed.

To turn the device off:

- press *Action* twice to exit from a subsection to a section or from section to the standby mode (*Clock*)
- press *On/Off* when the device is in the standby mode to turn the device off

Headset

The UT is equipped with a 3.5mm jack for the headset included into the package.
When the headset is on, the built-in speaker and microphone are off. The headset microphone and headphone are used for recording and playing. You can estimate the recorded signal quality, the noise level, as well as check the headset or microphone using the *Playback* function (see page 20). The

recorded voice will be played back through the speaker or the headphone.
You can use any standard (computer or Hi-Fi) microphone, Leave 2mm space while inserting the jack into the hole, thus the internal speaker will be used for playback.

Recognition

Commonly used phrases

The main function of the Universal Translator™ is substitution of an interpreter for you in such standard situations as registering at a hotel, shopping, visiting bank etc. You simply choose the appropriate phrase from the list or say it in English and the device will pronounce it for you in French, German or Spanish according to you wishes. The UT will make your communication with foreigners easy and enjoyable. Welcome to the *Topics* section!

In this section you will find the list of 14 topics containing commonly used phrases and their translations into French, German or Spanish (see page 20).

```
How many? >
¿Cuánto?
```

When you press *Action* in the standby mode (if the device had not been turned off automatically before, see page 8), the first topic (*Everyday Conversation*) will be displayed (please refer to page 25 to know more about how to get to the *Topics* section in another way). Here you can find various phrases commonly used for greeting, request, thanks etc.
If you need to make yourself understood, for example, in a hotel when you want to check in, scroll *Up/Down* till you get to the *Hotel* topic or just press *Start* and say the name of the desired topic.

For easy reference the phrases are arranged by topics and subtopics:

Everyday conversation	
Requests and questions	Apology
Greetings	Emotions
Thanks	
Traveling	
Tickets	On the plane
Customs	Railroad
Baggage	Train
Airport	Sea Port
Local transport	
Bus station	Subway
Bus	Taxi
Driving	
Car rental	Road Emergency
Gas station	Direction
Hotel	
Reservation	Services
Check-in	Complaints
Facilities	Checkout
Restaurant	
Reservation	Complaints
Placing an order	Non-alcoholic Drinks
Dishes	Alcoholic Drinks
Service	Payment
Shopping	
Information	Prices
General	Payment
Clothing	Service
Post office	
Telephone	
Inquiries	On the phone
Bank	
Exchange	Banking
Sightseeing	

General	Asking the way
City tour	
Beauty salon	
Haircut	Other
Health	
Symptoms	Dentist
Seeing a doctor	Emergency
Sport	
Soccer	Golf
Racing	Tennis
Sailing	Other
Scuba diving	

➢ Please, see the full list of available phrases in the Phrasebook (see page **Error! Bookmark not defined.**).

Viewing phrases and pronouncing translations

- select one of 14 topics and a subtopic inside it scrolling *Up/Down*
- scroll phrases within a subtopic and select the desired one. If you scrolled till the beginning or the end of a subtopic, the *no more* message will appear. Scrolling of a long phrase and its translation is automatic.

```
passport. >
Aquí está mi
```

- to listen to the translation of the selected phrase, press *Action*

Recognition

- enter the *Topics* section
- press *Start;* the *Recording…* message will appear

Recording…

- say in English the name of a topic you want to open (to look through the list of available topics see page 10)
- the *Recording…* message will disappear in a few seconds; if you do not want to wait, you can press *Start* to stop recording, or press *Action* to cancel recording

➢ Pronounce the phrases correctly, in a clear voice, at a normal pace and without pauses. Do not try to enunciate as you would for a foreigner. Since the speech recognition technology is in its first stage of development (although this device used the latest technologies available so far), in some cases you can face difficulties with recognition of short and similar in pronunciation words. For example, you say *Hotel* and the device can recognize a word like *Health* instead. If it persists, you should better select the desired topic from topics list manually (see page 11).

- after a while the *…done* message will appear

…done

- the device will replay the topic name you have said (if *Playback* option is on, see page 20)
- then the *Parsing…* message will appear

Parsing…

- the device will compare the name you have said with those stored in its memory, and then display the matching topic

➢ You can open a subtopic in the same way.

When in subtopic:

- press *Start;* the *Recording…* message will appear

```
Recording…
```

- say English phrase in accordance with the selected subtopic
- the *Recording…* message will disappear in a few seconds; or, if you do not want to wait, you can press *Start* to stop recording, or press *Action* to cancel recording

➢ Pronounce the phrases correctly, in a clear voice, at a normal pace and without pauses. Do not try to enunciate as you would for a foreigner.

- after a while the *…done* message will appear

```
…done
```

- the device will replay the phrase you have said (if *Playback* option is on, see page 20)
- then the *Parsing…* message will appear

```
Parsing…
```

- the device will compare the phrase you have said with those stored in its memory, then display the matching phrase and its translation.
  Every basic phrase has several variants for recognition, so-called analogs. They are stored in the memory and are not displayed. Including these variants, the section contains about 3,000 phrases recorded by native American speakers. Translation will be pronounced (if the *Reply* option is on, see page 21).

By default, French translations are displayed and pronounced. You can change the target language in the *Language* subsection (see page 20).
Scrolling of a long phrase and its translation is automatic.

- to listen to the translation of this phrase once more, press *Action*

How to find another phrase:

- to see another phrase in the same subtopic, find it in the phrases list scrolling *Up/Down*, or press *Start* and say the desired phrase
- to find a phrase in another subtopic, press *Action* twice, you will switch into subtopics list of the same topic; then select the desired subtopic and press *Action* to enter it. Now, search for the desired phrase as described above.
- to find a phrase in another topic, press *Action* twice to get to the subtopics list, then press *Action* twice again to get to the topics list; here you can choose a topic and its subtopic and find a desired phrase as described above.

How to achieve the best results in Recognition

If there are any problems with recognition:

- at first, make sure you selected the proper subtopic
- it’s recommended to use an external headset for best recognition results

If the quality of recognition does not improve:

- enter *Topics*, then press *Start*, record a phrase. Since *Playback* is on, the record will be played back automatically.

- listen to it carefully and try to estimate whether your voice sounds clearly or there are a lot of reverberating sounds. In the latter case, try to speak not so loud or stay far from the microphone. In case if your voice is, on the contrary, too quiet, try to speak louder or closely to the microphone.
- when using the headset with a switch, make sure you turned your microphone on
- try to find more quiet place or shield the microphone with your hand, if there are intensive external noises and you cannot hear your recorded voice when *Playback* is on
- pronounce articles, prepositions and short words distinctly
- if you usually speak very fast, try to speak a little slower, yet don't say phrase word by word
- if the device recognized the phrase you had pronounced, try to repeat it at the same pace and tone. Repeat the phrase several times. Such a training will let you find the optimal pronunciation pace and tone, thus making the device to recognize your voice better.

Menu

The *Menu* gives you the ability to make your work with the Universal Translator™ more convenient. Here you can find all advanced UT features and change settings.

To get to the *Menu:*

- scroll *Up/Down* when in the standby mode; *press ACTION for menu…* message will appear

```
Press ACTION for
menu…
```

- press *Action,* the *Menu* will be displayed

There are three sections in the *Menu*: *Recorder, Setup, Topics*

```
► Recorder
  Setup
```

- the first two of them will be displayed
- to see the next item, scroll the *Up/Down* button down

Recorder

UT can be used as a voice-recording device. It allows saving small records maximum 20 seconds long.
To open the section,

- enter *Menu; Recorder* will be marked with the arrow

```
► Recorder
  Setup
```

- press *Action;* the four-item (*Record, Playback, Erase, Erase all*) menu will be opened and two items will be displayed

```
► Record
  Playback
```

- to see the next two items, scroll the *Up/Down* button down

Creating a Record

- select *Record* with the arrow and press *Action*
- *You have 20s for memos* message will appear and the list of four slots will be opened (*Memo1, Memo2, Memo3, Memo4*🔔). First two of them will be displayed.

```
► Memo1
  Memo2
```

- to see the next two slots, scroll the *Up/Down* button down

➢ 20 seconds is the total maximum length for all four records, not for each one.

➢ If you already recorded some slot, the total maximum length for the resting messages will be automatically adjusted, and you will see the respective message when entering the *Record* section the next time. For example, if you have recorded four seconds in *Memo1*, the *You have 16s for memos* message will appear.

- to start recording, select a slot with the arrow and press *Action* (if you press *Start,* the first blank slot will be used for recording, not the selected one)
- to stop recording, press *Action* or *Start*

➢ If a slot is full you cannot make another record here. To make another record in this slot, you should first erase the existing one.

➢ When in *Recorder,* you can press *Start* any time to start immediate recording. The first blank slot will be ready for recording.

➢ If you want to create a record using the *Start* button, yet all slots are full, the *Memo slots full. Erase* message will appear. If you use the *Action* button, the *Already recorded* message will appear. In this case you should erase one or all records prior to making a new one.

➢ If you spent all 20s for one slot, you will see no warning messages when trying to make a record, no matter what button you press. However, if you press *Action* while the arrow points the full slot, the *Already recorded* message will appear.

➢ If you create a record in *Memo4*🔔, it will be used for *Alarm's* signal.

```
  Memo3
► Memo4🔔
```

Playing Back Stored Records

- select *Playback* with the arrow and press *Action*
- select a record you want to listen to with the arrow and press *Action*

```
Playing...
```

- to stop playback, press *Action*

Deleting Stored Records

There are two ways of erasing record(s):
I.

- select *Erase* with the arrow

```
  Playback
► Erase
```

- select a record you want to erase and press *Action;* the *Erased!* message will appear

```
  Erased!
```

II.

- to erase all records at the same time, select *Erase all* with the arrow

```
  Erase
► Erase all
```

- press *Action;* the *Erased all!* message will appear

```
ERASED ALL!
```

Setup

You can adjust some options in the *Setup* section to make your work with the UT more convenient. To open the section:

- enter *Menu*
- select *Setup* with the arrow and press *Action*

```
  Recorder
► Setup
```

- the settings menu will be displayed

```
► Language
  Playback
```

- to see the next settings, scroll the *Up/Down* button down

You can change any setting as follows.

Language

By default, English phrases and their French translations are displayed. If you want to look through or listen to the translations in German or Spanish:

- enter the *Setup* section
- *Language* will be marked with the arrow

```
► Language
  Playback
```

- press *Action*
- select a language (*French*, *German*, *Spanish*) with the arrow
- press *Action*, the message saying that the desired language is set will appear, for example:

```
German
is set
```

Playback

You can turn playback of every pronounced English phrase on or off:

- enter the *Setup* section
- select *Playback* with the arrow

```
  Language
► Playback
```

- press *Action*
- select *OFF* or *ON* with the arrow
- press *Action*, the message *Playback ON* or *Playback OFF* will appear, for example:

```
Playback OFF
```

Reply

You can turn replay of translations appearing on the display on or off:

- enter the *Setup* section
- select *Reply* with the arrow

```
  Playback
► Reply
```

- press *Action*
- select *OFF* or *ON* with the arrow
- press *Action*, the message *Reply ON* or *Reply OFF* will appear, for example:

```
  Reply ON
```

➢ If you want to listen to the translation of a displayed phrase and *Reply* is *OFF*, just press *Action*.

Time

You can set current *Date* and *Time*, and also *Time format* in this section:

- enter the *Setup* section
- select *Time* with the arrow

```
  Reply
► Time
```

- press *Action*

```
12:14am 12h
01 Jan 2001
```

➢ Every pressing of the *Action* button inside the *Time* section moves the active field to the next position.

To adjust *Time*:

- highlight *hours* or *minutes* by pressing *Action*
- set desired values by scrolling *Up/Down*

To change *Time format*:

- highlight *Time format* by pressing *Action*
- set *24h* or *12h* format scrolling *Up/Down*

```
00:14 24h
01 Jan 2001
```

To set *Date*:

- highlight *day, month,* or *year* by pressing *Action*
- set desired values scrolling *Up/Down*

```
00:14 24h
05 Nov 2001
```

- to exit the section, press *Action* twice, the *Time is set* message will appear. The *Clock* will show current time, date and the 🔔 sign if the *Alarm* is on.

```
00:14 🔔
05 Nov 2001
```

Auto off

If you forgot to turn the device off, the standby mode will be automatically set in one minute (by default) and then the device will shut off in the same timespan to save batteries.
You can change the *Auto off* time from 1 into 3 or 5 minutes:

- enter the *Setup* section
- select *Auto off* with the arrow

```
  Time
► Auto off
```

- press *Action*
- select the desired value with the arrow and press *Action;* the message saying that *Auto off* is set will appear, for example:

```
Auto off is
1 min
```

➢ The standby mode will be automatically set after the selected time elapses and then the device will shut off in the same timespan. For example, if 3 minutes *Auto off* is set, the device will turn off in 6 minutes.

➢ The device is in the standby mode when the *Clock* (current time, date and the 🔔 sign if the *Alarm* is on) is displayed. From this mode, you can enter the first topic (*Everyday Conversation*) or the *Menu,* or turn the device off, see page 8.

Alarm

You can set *Alarm* in this section:

- enter the *Setup* section
- select *Alarm* with the arrow

```
  Auto off
▶ Alarm
```

- press *Action*

➢ Every pressing of the *Action* button inside the *Alarm* section moves the active field to the next position.

- select the desired value (*Disabled, Enabled* or *voice memo4)* to set one of three possible modes

```
Enabled
14:30
```

➢ The *Voice memo4* option is used if you want a record from *Memo4* (*Recorder* section, see page 16) to replay when the alarm goes off. Melody stored in ROM replays by default.

➢ Make sure the sound is not disabled and the headset is unplugged when *Voice memo4* is selected. If *Enabled* is selected, you will hear the melody stored in the ROM at the set time even if the beeping sound is disabled and headset is plugged in.

To set *Alarm Time:*

- select *hours* or *minutes* by pressing *Action*

```
Enabled
14:30
```

- set the desired value scrolling *Up/Down;* the 🔔 sign will be displayed when the *Alarm* is *On*

```
 00:14 🔔
 05 Nov 2001
```

➢ An audible signal or record from *Memo4* will be heard at the set time.

Topics

How to get to the section

Enter the *Topics* section. You can do it in two ways:

- press *Action* when in the *Clock* (standby) mode (if the device had not been turned off automatically before, see page 8), or
- enter *Menu*
- select *Topics* with the arrow

```
  Setup
► Topics
```

- press *Action*

Please refer to page 9 for detailed information about choosing a phrase and recognition function.

Maintenance and care

Power Supply

The UT is powered by two AA alkaline batteries.
When the batteries become weak, a warning message *Low battery! No speech!* will be displayed.
In order to prevent an excessive battery power drain the voice recording and the talking function will be disabled.
A few seconds before the device turns off the *BATTERIES ARE EMPTY!* message appears.

Initialization

The device may be damaged due to an improper handling or electrostatic discharge. Normal operation can be restored by replacing batteries, or by pressing the *Reset* button (located to the right inside of battery compartment) with a paper clip.
Visit our site www.ectaco.com to find additional information about product care and support.

How to replace the batteries

- press *On/Off* when in the standby mode to turn the device off
- remove the battery compartment cover by sliding it away from the device
- remove the used batteries and replace them with new ones
- make sure to place the batteries according to the polarity markings (+ -) inside the compartment
- secure the battery compartment cover by sliding it toward the device. Make sure the cover sits in place properly.

➢ The battery compartment always must be closed, with its cover on.

➢ Do not use old batteries or mix old and new ones.

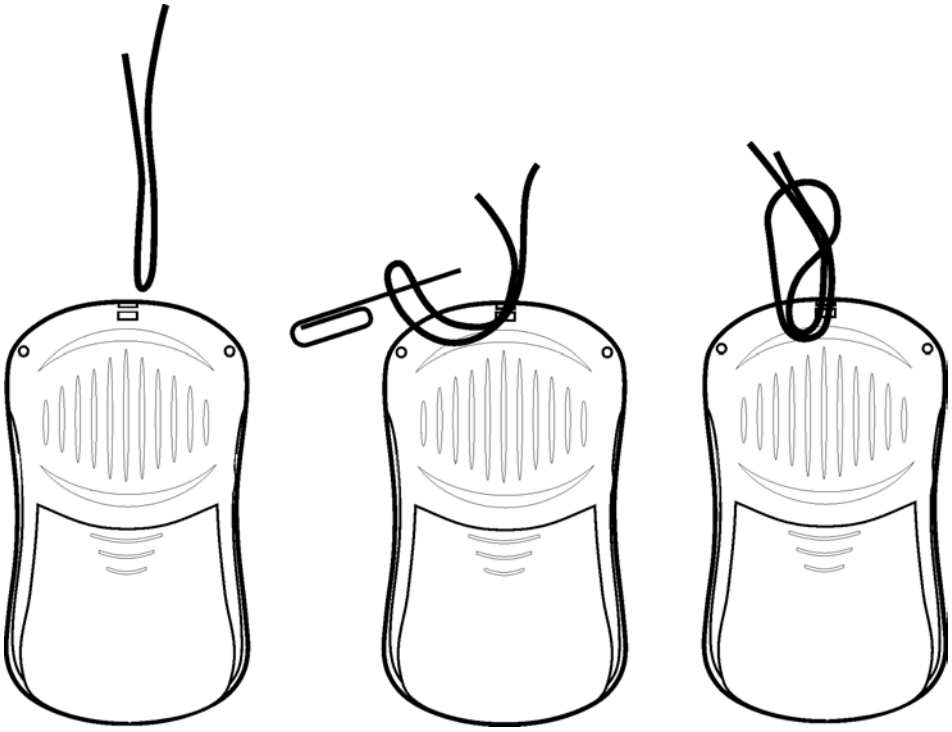
➢ Do not exceed the 2-minute limit if you want to keep your settings.

- if you experience difficulty turning the device on, press the *RESET* button inside the battery compartment and reinstall the system

➢ Prevent the device from straight sun rays and electrostatic fields. Avoid the device being exposed to rain or water, dropped or its cabinet or display mechanically damaged.

Do not attempt to service the device yourself as opening or removing covers may result in damages and losing guaranty. Refer all servicing to qualified service personnel.

How to fasten the strap

Two small holes for the strap are located on the back of the device on the top.

- put the loop of string through the holes (help yourself with something like paperclip)
- thread the strap through the loop of string
- pull the loop of string taut